



## **2015 Southern California Association Championship and Grand Prix Rules**

### **Association Championship Rules**

- 1) All current USATF Members over the age of 14 for women and 16 for men may compete in the Championship. All Open athletes, regardless of association, are eligible for prize money awarded for the Championship, but are not eligible for either the Individual Grand Prix prize money or Team Grand Prix Stipend. Only Southern California Association Members are eligible for individual awards or will count toward the team competition in the Championship or the Grand Prix.
- 2) At the Championship 3 races will be conducted: (1) Men's Open; (2) Men's Masters; and (3) Women's Open and Masters Combined Race. In the Men's Open race awards will be presented to places 1-10. In the Men's Master's race awards will be presented to places 1-5 in Masters 40-49, 1-5 in Masters 50-59, 1-3 in Masters 60-69 and 1-3 in Masters 70+. In the Women's race Open awards will be presented to places 1-10 regardless of age and to places 1-5 in Masters 40-49, 1-5 in Masters 50-59, 1-3 in Masters 60-69 and 1-3 in Masters 70+.
- 3) In both Men's races no individual declaration is required. Men's Masters athletes may compete as individuals in both the Men's Open and the Men's Master's race. In the Women's race, no individual declaration is required. Women's Masters athletes may receive awards both based upon their overall (Open) place and the place in their particular age group.

- 4) In the Men's Open race a Men's Open team competition will be contested. In the Men's Masters race Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ team competitions will be contested. In the Women's race a Women's Open, Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ competitions will be contested.
- 5) In all team events there is no maximum number of runners that may be declared for the team. Within each team division (Open, Masters 40+, Masters 50+) teams with members sufficient for 2 or more separate scoring teams are free to either run as one team or run separate A and B teams within the same division.
- 6) In the Men's Open, Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ team competitions 5 runners will score with the next 4 displacing.
- 7) In the Women's Open team competition 5 runners will score with the next 4 displacing. In the Women's Masters 40+ and Masters 50+ team competitions 3 runners will score with the next 2 displacing.
- 8) All runners may score for only one team and will be scored on the team corresponding to their individual age unless a separate declaration is made at least 30 minutes prior to the race start.
- 9) All masters runners in both the Men's Masters race and the Women's race will wear back tags signifying their individual age group. Any masters runner competing on a "lower age group" team will wear a second back tag denoting their team.
- 10) Championship prize money is awarded to the top 3 individuals in the Men's Open race and in the Women's race as follows:
  - 1st place: \$350, 2nd place: \$100, 3rd place: \$50.

## Individual Grand Prix Rules

- 1) Runners must be current members of USA Track & Field at the time of participation for scoring. To score in the Grand Prix as an Open runner a runner must be a minimum of 16 years of age for men and 14 years of age for women. The minimum age for a Masters runner is 40 years of age. Runners from any participating USATF association may participate in all events; however, only runners from the Southern California Association will earn points in the Grand Prix.
- 2) For individuals the final Grand Prix score is based on the highest score from two preliminary races, plus the score from the Championship race. If a runner competes in more than two preliminary races, the two highest preliminary scores will be used for final scoring. To qualify for the Grand Prix or receive prize money a runner must complete at least two preliminary races and the Championship race.
- 3) In the preliminary races points are awarded to the first 25 runners. The first place finisher receives 25 points, the second finisher 24 points, and the 25th finisher receives 1 point. No points are awarded to any other runner.
- 4) In the Championship double points are awarded to the first 25 runners. The first place finisher receives 50 points, the second finisher 48 points, and the 25th finisher receives 2 points. No points are awarded to any other runner.
- 5) All eligible runners will be scored in every race. No adjustments to scoring will be made simply because scoring runners do not compete in enough events to qualify for the Grand Prix.
- 6) In the event of a tie, the individual winner will be determined by the highest position at the Championship.
- 7) Individual athletes 40-49 years of age may participate in the Open and Masters 40-49 categories and may earn money in the Open and the Masters 40-49 Grand Prix. Individual

athletes 50 years of age or older may participate in the Open and Masters 50+ categories and may earn money in the Open and the Masters 50+ Grand Prix, but are not eligible to win money in the Masters 40-49 division. For an individual Masters runner to qualify for the Open Grand Prix prize money, they must run in the Open race at the Championship.

- 8) In the case of preliminary race #2, the UC Riverside Invitational (and, if applicable preliminary race #1, the UC Irvine Invitational if the competition is split into two men's and/or women's races), a runner may earn points in either the Invitational or Open race, but not both. Each race will be scored independently of the other and not cumulatively. In the case of any athlete choosing to compete in both races, such athlete will only receive the higher points earned and will only receive credit for having run in one of the required preliminary races to qualify for the Grand Prix.
- 9) Grand Prix prize money is awarded to individuals in three divisions: Open runners, Masters runners age 40-49, and Masters runners age 50+. Age group is based on the runner's age at the first race of participation.
  - Open Prize Money: 1st place: \$600, 2nd place: \$300, 3rd place: \$100.
  - Masters 40-49 Prize Money: 1st place: \$250, 2nd place: \$150, 3rd place: \$100.
  - Masters 50+ Prize Money: 1st place: \$250, 2nd place: \$150, 3rd place: \$100.
- 10) Prize money will be distributed in the form of a check mailed from USATF Southern California Association. Winners must complete a signed W9 form to collect prize money.

## Team Grand Prix Rules

- 1) All team members must meet all of the requirements set forth in paragraph 1 of the Individual Grand Prix Rules above.
- 2) Each team may score up to 5 runners per race, including the Championship. The team score for each race, including the Championship, will be the aggregate of each team's 5 best individual scores for each race. Runners scoring as both an Open athlete and a Master's athlete may only be scored once; except that an individual male athlete competing separately in both the Open and Masters race in the Championship may count both individual scores toward the team score.
- 3) Runners who were counted toward the team grand prix are highlighted in ***bold and italics*** on the standings page.
- 4) In order to give weight to divisions that are more competitive the following limitation is placed on the team points than an individual may earn: In determining team grand prix points only, in the case of any runner whose finish time in a race was 120% or more of the winner's finishing time in that same category (Open, 40-49, 50+) the runner's points toward the team score shall be limited to the lesser of the ratio of the time of the runner in question to the time of the winner of such runner's category multiplied by 25, with any fractional points dropped, and the runner's individual grand prix score.

Example: The winning time in a particular race in the Men's 40-49. Any runner finishing faster than 36:00 (120% of 30:00) will have his individual points carry over to his team at full value. Any runner finishing in 36:00 or slower will be subject to having his team (but not individual) score reduced.

- \* Runner A finishes in 36:00 and places third in the division. Runner A receives 23 points toward his individual grand prix score, however, shall only receive 20 points toward the team grand prix ( $30:00 / 36:00 = .833 \times 25 = 20.833$ , rounded down to 20, which is greater than his individual score of 23).

- \* Runner B finishes in 38:30 and places tenth in the division. Runner B receives 16 points toward his individual grand prix score. Runner B also receives 16 points toward the team grand prix because his actual score was lower than the highest allowed score ( $30:00 / 38:30 = .7792 \times 25 = 19.48$ , rounded down to 19).
- 5) A team's final Grand Prix score is based on the total points scored in the Championship plus the team's three highest scores in preliminary races.
  - 6) In the event of a tie, the team winner will be determined according to the following tiebreaking procedures:
    - a. First, highest team score at the Championship;
    - b. Second, highest individual score of last (5<sup>th</sup>) scoring member of team in the Championship;
    - c. Third, total team score for each team's lowest team score of all preliminary races;
    - d. Fourth, total team score for each team's second lowest team score of all preliminary races;
    - e. Fifth, total team score for each team's third lowest team score of all preliminary races;
    - f. Sixth, total team score for each team's fourth lowest team score of all preliminary races;
    - g. Seventh, highest aggregate number of finishers, whether one of the 5 scoring members or not, across all races in the Championship; and
    - h. Eighth, drawing of lots.
  - 7) The top team that competes in the Club Nationals in San Francisco, California on December 12, 2015 will receive a reimbursement stipend of \$750. To qualify for the reimbursement stipend the team must (1) have at least one scoring team compete in and finish at Club Nationals, and (2) have a total of at least 5 team members compete in and finish at Club Nationals, otherwise the reimbursement stipend will fall to the highest placing team in the team Gran Prix that

meets the preceding requirements, provided that such team placed in the top 3 in the team Grand Prix standings.

- 8) Prize money will be distributed in the form of a check mailed from USATF Southern California Association following confirmation of qualification for the stipend as set forth in #5 above. The winning team must complete a signed W9 form to collect prize money.

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